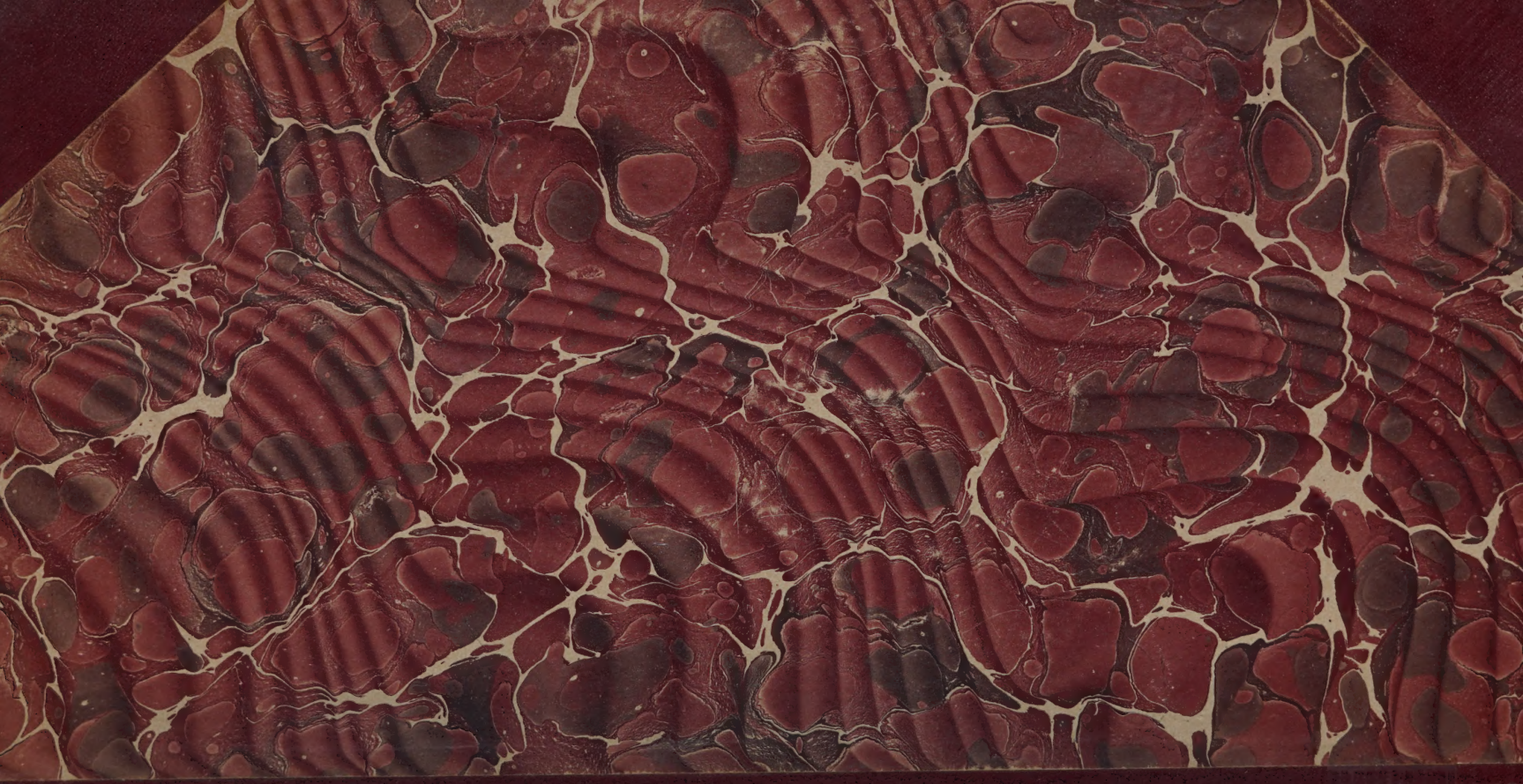

REPORTS

OF

THE SELECTMEN,

TREASURER,

AND

SUPT. SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Town of Newport,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1883.

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REPORTS

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OF THE

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FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1883.

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PRINTED BY BARTON & WHEELER.
1883.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MAR. 1, 1883.

RECEIPTS.

1882.		
March 1st,	Cash in Treasurer's hands,	$2,231.75
" "	Taxes in hands of A. H. Ingram for collection 1876,	275.63
May 8th,	Taxes committed to Chas. F. Fletcher for collection,	20,791.77
Sept. 22d,	Cash from Sullivan County for support of County paupers,	1,135.95
1883.		
Jan. 2d,	Cash from State Treasurer, Insurance Tax,	7.50
" "	Cash from State Treasurer, Railroad Tax,	744.86
" "	Cash from State Treasurer, Savings Bank Tax,	2,961.24
" "	Cash from State Treasurer, Literary Fund,	243.34
" 30th,	Cash from Sullivan County, for support of County paupers,	499.55
" "	Cash from State Treasurer, for bounty on crows paid in 1881,	1.20
Feb. 28th,	cash from E. M. Kempton for fines,	15.00
	" " Costs in Wakefield case,	21.50
	" " L. W. Barton, note and int.,	16.85
	" " D. G. Chadwick, highway taxes of 1881,	15.05
	" " Baptist Society, for stones,	5.00
	" and note from L. W. Barton, office rent,	40.00
	" and bill from B. Logue, office rent,	3.00
	Bill from Silas Kempton, " "	.90

Feb. 25th,	Cash and bill from C. H. Richardson, rent of chapel tenement,	$36.00	
	" from Sugar River Lodge No. 55, hall rent,	10.00	
	" from Town Hall rent,	25.18	
	" " Interest on taxes of 1882,	47.03	
			$29,128.30

DISBURSEMENTS.

HIGHWAYS.

	Summer.	Winter.
Paid H. B. Walker,	$4.16	
S. Whittier,	3.00	
A. Robinson,	19.27	
H. G. Sprague,	45.45	
J. W. Crowell,	1.50	
H. P. Wakefield,	84.67	22.71
E. R. Miller,	76.69	10.00
J. A. Marshall,	104.08	
E. L. R. Smith,	13.00	
G. F. Cram,	21.08	3.00
Wm. Darling,	13.27	
A. M. Gove,	28.44	4.97
Frank E. Wright,	15.20	
S. H. Cutting,	46.00	5.50
G. E. Jennings,	6.40	
A. J. Cutts,	4.80	
Wm. Endicott,	15.35	13.60
D. A. Newton,	40.00	
G. S. Stone,	1.00	4.60
G. F. Dunham,		2.50
C. R. Jones,	9.76	22.36
B. R. Allen,	100.00	
Don C. Smith,	19.50	11.79
Wm. H. Davis,	10.71	
J. W. Ladd,	5.00	
Wm. Bascom,	18.00	12.84
Silas Wright,	4.50	2.85
John Flannagan,	10.29	

Paid	D. Paul,	$7.20	$5.00	
	H. A. Cutts,	3.00		
	O. H. Parker,		13.14	
	John Johnson,	10.19	8.68	
	L. B. George,	1.75	4.98	
	D. S. Bartlett,	24.65	8.70	
	D. G. Fowler,	5.13	10.50	
	Wm. H. Perry,	8.20	12.90	
	G. W. Cutts,		3.24	
	W. S. Kempton,	7.08	3.50	
	H. A. Wilcox,	2.00		
	W. K. Hurd,	8.61	4.54	
	Wm. Tilton,	5.80	13.44	
	Orsamus Whipple,	14.99		
	O. W. Page,	2.00	14.50	
	C. J. Muzzey,		2.88	
	Dexter Parker,	2.40	12.60	
	Epaphras Paul,		2.50	
	Geo. Angell,	4.00	7.40	
	Lear & Maxfield,	16.77		
	Charles Emerson,		2.00	
	Orren Osgood,		13.50	
	G. E. Wilmarth,	31.00	6.00	
	H. E. Cole,	10.95		
	Dodge & Phelps,	768.73		
	Wm. Batchelder	50.00		
	M. V. Brown,	52.56		
	Austin Hoban,	33.65		
	Patrick Hoban,	23.25		
	J. B. Cooper,	50.00		
	G. F. Whitney, 2d,	12.50		
	E. R. Miller,	12.50		
				$2,156.77

LUMBER.

Paid	H. P. Wakefield,	$74.39	
	Edwin R. Miller,	4.00	
	Gilbert E. Jennings,	29.71	
	A. J. Cutts,	3.00	
	George S. Stone,	30.62	
	Samuel W. Allen,	24.91	

Paid	Frank Reed,	$2.00	
	Doddridge Paul,	3.30	
	John H. Cutting,	55.00	
	Ira F. Chandler,	58.76	
	David G. Fowler,	18.46	
	William S. Kempton,	5.00	
	Granville Pollard,	5.15	
			$314.30

FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENSES.

Paid	E. J. Graves, services as Chief Engineer,	$25.00	
	C. H. Watts, services as Clerk,	20.00	
	J. R. Hutchinson, services as Steward,	18.33	
	C. F. Pike, "	18.25	
	S. Prescott, Hook & Ladder service,	15.00	
	C. H. Watts, 12 1-4 cords wood,	50.75	
	C. H. Watts, repairs on engines and hose,	9.75	
	Wm. Nourse, miscellaneous,	4.26	
	Simon Cheney, sawing,	5.00	
	Firemen,	456.14	
	Carlton Hurd, damage to fence,	3.95	
			$626.43

DOG DAMAGE.

	Claimed.	Paid.
Addison Cutting,	$22.00	$13.18
Doddridge Paul,	29.00	17.38
Lorenzo Cutts,	11.00	6.59
David Johnson,	10.00	5.99
Rufus S. Dudley,	95.00	56.96
Wm. D. Pike,	8.00	4.80
Orren Osgood,	3.00	1.80
Alfred J. Gould,	8.00	4.80
Willard Sherman,	8.00	4.80
John A. Marshall,	3.50	2.10
S. H. Moody,	5.00	3.00
Henry A. Wilcox,	6.00	3.60
Jacob O. Endicott,	8.00	4.80
John Johnson,	12.00	7.19
	$228.00	$137.00

(Total receipts of dog tax, $137.00).

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid	H. P. Coffin, returning births, deaths, and marriages to the Sec'y of State,	$25.49
	D. M. Currier, recording births and deaths,	10.50
	T. B. Sanborn, " "	7.50
	J. L. Swett, " "	1.75
	W. W. Darling, " "	.75
	F. W. Lewis, blank book,	5.16
	C. T. Lathrop, injury to self on highway,	10.00
	R. G. & S. E. Bascom, injury and damage on highway,	50.00
	W. G. Sherman. damage to machine on highway,	7.50
	W. H. Perry, Decoration Day expenses,	32.00
	I. W. Sargent, repairs on Chapel tenement,	1.25
	C. C. George, " "	3.25
	C. H. Richardson, " "	16.46
	J. B. Cooper, witness fees and summonses in Wakefield case,	65.85
	A. S. Wait, services in Wakefield case,	128.25
	" retainer and advice,	15.00
	B. F. Haven, casket stands,	5.00
	R. M. Musgrove, school notices,	1.50
	F. W. Cheney, printing,	17.45
	Barton & Wheeler, printing,	28.88
	S. H. Edes, water rent,	15.00
	Wm. Gilmore, water trough,	3.00
	Nathan Smith, "	2.75
	Lear & Maxfield, "	3.00
	C. H. Tarbell, "	2.00
	C. F. Fletcher, "	2.75
	Wm. Nourse, miscellaneous goods,	19.18
	S. H. Edes, overpaid taxes by reason of error in inventory blank,	12.24
	D. Richards, for overpaid taxes by reason of error in inventory blank,	68.15
	E. H. Tenney, building fence at west cemetery,	30.00
	Carlton Hurd, stationery,	1.70
	E. C. Converse, stationery and school books,	30.92
	M. A. Barton, key fees and lodging tramps,	22.50

G. B. Lear, services of Supervisors,	$108.00
G. B. Lear, police service for one year,	30.00
C. H. Watts, " " " "	10.00
W. W. Hubbell, " " " "	15.00
Chas. Emerson, " " " "	2.00
C. L. Nichols, lighting bridge,	15.00
A. & B., bounty on crows,	3.00
L. W. Barton, retainer and fees,	15.00
M. S. Jackson, services on Ingram tax-book,	5.00
M. S. Jackson, team in 1881,	1.50
E. M. Kempton, taking affidavits,	6.00
B. F. Haven, services as Sexton,	33.50
G. L. Muzzey, " "	85.75
C. A. Puffer, care of town clock 4 months,	4.50
E. E. Stearns " " " 8 "	8.80
S. G. Stowell & Son, miscellaneous goods,	5.03
S. Prescott, use of teams and moving paupers,	11.25
E. R. Miller, " " "	4.50
E. Wilkins & Son, repairing tools and stove,	1.90
L. Whittemore, for wood and work in cemetery,	10.50
C. F. Fletcher, non resident highway tax worked,	.24
J. B. Cooper, town clerk's certificates and postage,	3.22
R. C. Osgood, building part of Highland street,	40.00
P. S. Adams, " " "	55.00
S. H. Cutting, building part of Beech street	51.00
F. W. Lewis, for Treasurer's salary,	40.00
H. P. Coffin, Town Clerk's "	62.00
J. B. Cooper, Overseer of Poor "	50.00
E. R. Miller, Selectmen's "	350.00
C. F. Fletcher, Collector's "	200.00
J. W. Parmelee, Supt. of Schools, "	65.00
D. J. Mooney, Board of Education,	25.00
S. H. Edes, Auditors 1882,	9.00
	$1,973.42

SCHOOL MONEY, 1882.

Dist. No. 1,	J. E. Reed,	$102.15	
3,	Wm. H. Perry,	151.41	
4,	Mrs. C. E. Reed,	136.83	
5,	George A. Gove,	174.11	
6,	G. E. Jennings, insurance tax, $9.00		
	" 225.74	234.74	
7,	George F. Whitney, 2d,	131.51	
9,	Alfred J. Gould,	94.78	
10,	John Johnson,	124.93	
11,	Dexter Peabody,	102.46	
12,	Don C. Smith,	86.20	
13,	E. B. Pike,	96.53	
15,	H. W. Reed,	86.25	
	Union School District, D. J. Mooney,	2,449.04	
			$3,970.94

TOWN PAUPER EXPENSES.

For Otis F. Carr,—

Paid	J. C. Spooner, for wood,	$1.60	
	M. E. Wheeler, for nursing,	4.00	
	Mrs. F. M. Dana, for rent,	9.00	
	S. A. Tenney, for milk,	4.60	
	Fairbanks & Son, for dry good and groceries,	19.94	
	Richards & Coffin, for wood " "	11.30	
	E. S. Chase & Son, for boots and shoes,	2.85	
	D. M. Currier, for medical attendance,	21.25	
	Carleton Hurd, for medicines,	.20	
	T. B. Sanborn, for medical attendance,	1.50	
	H. M. Kimball, for provisions,	11.24	
	F. A. Rawson, "	13.92	
	E. C. Converse, for medicines,	5.57	
	L. Whittemore, watching,	7.00	
	B. Logue, for repairing boots,	.50	
	J. H. Cutting, for wood,	2.00	$116.47

For Willie Goodwin,—

Paid	A. M. Dame, for board and clothing,	$49.30	
	Jona. Barnard, for order by A. M. Dame,	5.00	
	C. E. Dudley, for shoes,	1.50	

Paid	Mooney & Meserve, for clothing,	$2.11	
	Richards & Coffin, for stockings,	1.80	
	E. S. Chase & Son, for boots,	3.20	$62.91
	For Joel Putney,—		
Paid	C. B. York, for board,	$78.00	
	Fairbanks & Son, for yarn,	.65	
	Mooney & Meserve, for clothing,	4.00	
	Richards & Coffin, for dry goods,	1.50	
	B. Logue, for repairing boots,	1.50	$85,65
	For Mrs. Powers,—		
Paid	Richards & Coffin, for dry goods and groceries,	25.00	$25.00
	For Mrs. Zilpha Hanson,—		
Paid	O. A. Nutting, for board and care,	$57.00	
	T. B. Sanborn, for medical attendance,	14.25	$71.25
	For C. H. Whitney,—		
Paid	T. B. Sanborn, for medical attendance,	$2.75	$2.75
			$364.03

Total amount expended for County paupers, $1,577.55
" " received from Sullivan County, $1,635.50

JNO. B. COOPER, Overseer of the Poor.

TOWN HALL PEPORT.

RECEIPTS.

From	Band,	$20,00
	Universalist Society,	10.00
	Petts Minstrels,	12.00
	Odd Fellows,	10.00
	Graduating Exercises,	5.00
	Baptist Society,	8.00
	Uncle Tom's Cabin,	11.00
	East Lynne,	10.00
	F. P. Meserve,	10.00
	Masonic Union,	8,00
	Whittemore & Clarke,	15.00

From Ladies' A. R. Corps,	$5.00	
Catholic Society,	25.00	
Musical Convention,	25.00	
Dancing School,	59.00	
Congregational Society,	5.00	
		$238.00

EXPENDITURES.

Paid L. Whittemore's Janitor's bill,	$66.50	
" for storing and sawing wood,	9.75	
" for 3 cords wood,	12.00	
" for extra work, soap, &c.,	13.75	
C. H. Stockwell, for 3 1-4 cords wood,	13.00	
C. E. Stubbs " 4 " "	16.00	
Wm. Nourse " oil, sink, use of stove, &c.	44.95	
Lear & Maxfield " work,	1.50	
C. Wilcox & Son " oil, &c.,	1.35	
J. B. Cooper " postage and repairing lock,	.92	
E. H. Tenney " work and lumber,	11.10	
F. P. Eastman " 4 cords wood,	12.00	
J. B. Cooper " services as agent,	10.00	
F. W. Lewis " net proceeds,	25.18	
		$238.00

JNO. B. COOPER,
Agent for Town Hall.

RECAPITULATION.

Total receipts,		$29,128.30
Expenditures:—		
Highway bills,	$2,156.77	
Lumber,	314.30	
Fire Department,	626.43	
Dog damage,	137.00	
Miscellaneous,	1,973.42	
School and School-house,	3,970.94	
Town paupers,	364.03	
County paupers,	1,577.55	
State tax,	3,052.00	
County tax,	3,185.23	

Bonds redeemed Mar. 1883,	2,865.00	
Interest,	6,838.00	
Abatement of tax 1882,	151.20	
Discount on tax 1882,	40.00	
Discount on tax 1876,	75.63	
Note,	15.00	
Cash in hand of Treasurer,	1785.80	
		$29,128.30

During the year there has been expended for concrete sidewalks and sewers,	$1,123.19
Repairs on Dodge bridge,	153.28
Building new roads,	146.00

JNO. B. COOPER,
GEO. F. WHITNEY, 2d,
EDWIN R. MILLER,
} Selectmen of Newport.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Cash in treasury, March 14, 1882,		$2,326.09
Received of Collector,		21,038.80
" for fines,		15.00
" support of County paupers,		1,635.50
" from State Treasurer,		3,958.14
" L. W. Barton,		16.85
" Selectmen,		137.27
		$29,127.65
Paid for interest and redemption of bonds,	$9,703.00	
orders, roads and bridges,	2,737.08	
" Fire Department,	618.22	
" support of paupers,	1,960.26	
" support of schools,	4,087.46	
" State and County taxes,	6,237.23	
" town officers,	899.49	
" dog damages,	137.00	
" miscellaneous bills,	948.66	
Cash in treasury,	1,799.25	
	$29,127.65	

F. W. LEWIS, Treasurer.

The auditors for the town of Newport for the year 1882 and 1883, respectfully report that they have examined the report of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the current year, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

March 6, 1883.

SAMUEL H. EDES,
L. W. BARTON,
ABIATHAR RICHARDS,
} Auditors for town of Newport.

REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee

FOR 1882-3.

DISTRICT NO. 1,

Jonathan E. Reed, Prudential Committee. The spring and summer term in this district was taught by Miss Ella L. Foote. The term continued 10 weeks with an average daily attendance of 7 scholars. Miss Foote was well qualified for the position she occupied, having had good experience as a teacher heretofore.

The winter term of 15 weeks was in charge of Miss Katie B. Long. The average daily attendance was 12 scholars. Miss Long has successfully taught the west primary, in Union district for five or six terms previous to her term here, and is regarded as a very competent instructor. A desirable harmony existed during both terms between teachers, scholars and parents, and the work done merits the entire approbation of the Superintending Committee.

DISTRICT NO. 3,

Wm. H. Perry, Prudential Committee. The spring and summer terms of the school in this district in charge of Miss Estie M. Cutting, continued 8 weeks and 4 days. The average daily attendance was sixteen. Miss Cutting was well qualified for her duties as teacher, and her work gave general satisfaction to the patrons of the school as well as the Supt.

The fall and winter term, taught by Maurice L. Clark, continued 13 weeks with an average attendance of 20 scholars. Mr. Clark is a member of the Sophomore class in Dartmouth College, and came to the school with good qualifications and some experience in teaching. The scholars felt the influence of his energy and ability. Several members of this school are well qualified to enter a higher school or academy. The Supt. is well satisfied that

the public money in this district has been well applied, and that good results will follow the work of both terms.

DISTRICT NO. 4,

Mrs. Clara E. Reed Prudential Committee. The spring term, in charge of Miss Emma F. Gilmore, continued 8 weeks with an average daily attendance of 10 pupils. Miss Gilmore is a graduate of our High School, class of 1881, and this was her first effort as a teacher. Her school was well ordered, and carefully instructed, and made a very creditable appearance on its closing day.

The fall and winter terms of 10 weeks each, with an average attendance of 12 scholars, were taught by Miss Sarah B. Colby, of Claremont, an experienced and systematic instructor, fully equal to her work. Her scholars were interested and attentive, and the degree of progress attained was creditable alike to teacher and pupils. The Supt. has reason to congratulate the district on having had a successful school year. The interest taken in this school was manifested by the good attendance of its patrons on its examination days, and on other occasions.

DISTRICT NO. 5, GUILD,

Geo. A. Gove, Prudential Committee. The spring and summer term of 11 weeks, with an average daily attendance of 15 scholars, was in charge of Miss Madora A. Gove. The conduct of this school was marked by earnestness and fidelity on the part of the teacher, and good order and attention on the part of the scholars. The closing examination exhibited a satisfactory degree of progress, and was well attended by the patrons of the school.

The fall and winter term in charge of Miss Celia A. Gove continued 17 weeks, with an average daily attendance of 15. Miss Gove has had a good experience in teaching, and her work was entirely satisfactory to the patrons of the school and the Supt. The closing exercises were well attended. A pleasant feature of the occasion was the valedictory pronounced by one of the little girls of the school. We hope the district at its annual meeting will consider the propriety of dividing their school year into three terms, and thus provide for a more judicious expenditure of their school money. During a term of 17 weeks, like the last, the interest of the teacher and scholars is liable to flag.

DISTRICT NO. 6, NORTH NEWPORT,

Gilbert E. Jennings, Prudential Committee. The spring term of 8 weeks and fall and winter terms of 10 weeks each were instructed by Miss M. M. Putnam of Croydon, a member of K. U. A. at Meriden.

The average daily attendance during the school year was 40 scholars.

Miss Putnam is a lady of much energy and ability, and succeeded in imparting these characteristics to her pupils. The Supt. would say that in contrasting the condition of this school on his first visit with its later appearance, a very pronounced change for the better was apparent. Under her administration the most desirable order prevailed, and the pupils acquired a promptness and distinctness in their recitations that was particularly commendable.

The Supt. is satisfied that neither time nor money have been squandered in this district, and that a lasting and valuable work has been accomplished.

DISTRICT NO. 7,

George F. Whitney, 2d, Prudential Committee. The first or spring term of 9 weeks, with an average daily attendance of 10 scholars, was in charge of Miss Dora M. Pike of Goshen. Miss Pike was faithful in the discharge of her duties as teacher, and a good degree of progress was made during the term.

The fall and winter term was instructed by Charles J. Emerson of this town. The term continued 14.8 weeks, with an average daily attendance of 15 scholars. Mr. Emerson is a student at the Colby Academy, New London—a young man of good ability and much promise. We think he has been particularly successful in his winter's work. We commend the pupils of this school for their diligence and attention during the term, and feel confident that substantial progress has been made. The closing exercises were well attended by the patrons of the school, and a general good feeling and interest was manifested on the occasion.

DISTRICT NO. 9,

A. J. Gould, Prudential Committee. Both terms of 9 and 10 weeks, making up the school year, were most satisfactorily taught by Miss Zilpha M. Cutting.

The average daily attendance was 12 scholars. A mutual good

understanding was apparent between the teacher and her pupils. She also had the cordial support of the patrons of the school, which at all times adds to the success of a teacher. The Supt. fully indorses the work done by Miss Cutting.

DISTRICT NO. 10,

John Johnson, Prudential Committee. The summer and winter terms of 12 and 13 weeks comprising the school year, were taught by Miss Ada A. Johnson. The average daily attendance was 17.

We would commend Miss Johnson for her conscientious regard to her duties as a teacher, and her pupils for their general good order and attention to their studies.

It was apparent on the occasion of her closing examination that she had enjoyed the confidence and support of the patrons of the school, and the Supt. is satisfied that good results will follow from the year's work done there.

DISTRICT NO. 11,

Dexter Peabody, Prudential Com. The summer term of 10 weeks in this district was instructed by Miss Chloe Stella Miller of this town. The average daily attendance was 5 scholars.

This was Miss Miller's first effort at teaching, and the Supt. is satisfied that her pleasant little school received good and careful attention, and that her pupils were largely benefitted by her presence and careful instruction.

The winter term of 10.6 weeks was in charge of Miss Estie M. Cutting whom we have heretofore mentioned as the teacher of the spring term in Dist. No. 3.

The only thing the Supt. regrets in connection with this school is that there were no more scholars to enjoy the instructions of good and competent teachers at both terms.

DISTRICT NO. 12,

Don C. Pike, Prudential Com. The summer term of 8 weeks was in charge of Mrs. S. L. Tenney, an experienced instructor. There was an attendance of only 2 scholars during the term.

The fall and winter term of 10 weeks was taught by Miss Alice M. Carr. There was an average attendance of 4 scholars during the last term. The only objection or drawback in regard to this school was the want of scholars.

DISTRICT NO. 13,

Eugene B. Pike, committee. The spring term continued 9 weeks with an average attendance of 7 scholars and was taught by Miss Sadie J. H. Cutting, an experienced and well qualified teacher.

The fall and winter term of 15 weeks was instructed by Miss Abbie Rose Cutting, sister of the former. The attendance was 10 pupils. The Misses Cutting were energetic and thorough in their methods of instruction. Both terms were well conducted and most satisfactory to the Supt. as well as the people of the district.

DISTRICT NO. 15,

H. W. Reed, Prud. Com. The summer and winter term of 8 and 10 weeks each, comprising the school year, were taught by Miss Rosette A. Rowell of Croydon. There was an average attendance of 4 pupils during the year. Miss Rowell was fully competent as a teacher, and any want of progress and success in the school may be attributed to a want of consideration and support on the part of some of its patrons.

Your committee has thus briefly and impartially sketched the situation of each school during the past year as regards Prudential Committee, the time occupied in the work, the qualifications of the teacher, and the results of the teaching. A year's experience has added much to his knowledge of their workings, and enabled him to estimate their value more justly, and report upon their condition more intelligently than otherwise could have been done. Additional statistics may be found in the tabulated statement annexed.

SCHOLARS.

The whole number of pupils enrolled upon the registers of the 12 districts, including a small number from the fractional districts of other towns (less than 5), during the past year was 195. In seven of these districts—more than one half—the whole attendance was 15 and less. In four districts the whole attendance was from 17 to 25 inclusive. In one district (No. 6) the number was 45. The average daily attendance would be somewhat less. The number of scholars enrolled in Union District is 267.

BUILDINGS.

With some exceptions, the school buildings are antiquated, and in several cases dilapidated—worn out within and without, and need repairs and paint and whitewash. No regard has been had

to shade trees, or any cultivation or improvement that would make the places pleasant for children, and thus cultivate a taste for good order and arrangement in contrast with the lessons of slovenliness they derive from tumbling-down out-buildings, old fences and rubbish, weeds, briars, mud-holes, and a forlorn untidiness. With very few exceptions, there is neither hitching-post nor hook to which a visitor can tie a horse with any kind of safety.

SCHOOL FURNITURE, &C.

In most of our school-houses the seats and desks are old-fashioned, clumsy, and ill adapted to the physiological conditions of growing children, and a thorough reform is desirable in this regard. In our modern, well-regulated school-rooms, a separate desk is appropriated to each pupil, and one or two settees are placed in front for the benefit of the class reciting; a very necessary convenience which we would be glad to see introduced into our district schools. With the exception of the State map, which, however, is too large to be convenient or useful, there are no outline maps on the walls of any district school-house in town, and no globes for the proper representation of the earth we inhabit, its motions, and the oceans and continents that are spread out upon its surface. It is in the interest of correct and thorough education that maps and a globe should be placed in every school-house.

VISITING SCHOOLS.

The public schools are constantly under the fire of criticism, because they reach into the homes of the people. Their work is canvassed daily and their influence felt through the sensitive nerves of parental affection. Were the homes of the people under as strict scrutiny as the schools, and report made, it is possible that the criticism would not be wholly on one side. It is not surprising that distorted notions and erroneous impressions are conveyed to parents through the lively imaginations of their children. To guard against any misunderstanding, the intercourse between parent and teacher should be frequent and direct. The teacher needs the encouragement and support of the prudential committee and the patrons of the school generally in order that the work may be thoroughly accomplished.

In this regard, we find that very few of the patrons of our district schools are in the habit of giving them their personal attention. They form their opinions of the teacher and the school from what is carried home to them, and not from their own ob-

servation. This is not as it should be, and your Supt. has made an effort to increase the personal interest of the people in their schools to the end that their usefulness may be increased.

THE DISTRICT SYSTEM.

As the leading interest of our state has changed from argicultural to mechanical and manufacturing, the homes of the people have also changed from the farms to the villages. School districts, where there were formerly from 50 to 75 pupils, can at the present time muster scarcely a dozen. The State Supt. Mr. Patterson comes to us and shows forcibly and truthfully that the public money is not profitably expended in sustaining schools with so limited a patronage,—that the present district system is no longer useful.

Your committee does not propose any suggestions in relation to this matter but simply refer the selectmen and the people of the town to the tabular statement annexed and other matter in this report, and let the facts speak for themselves. It cannot be otherwise than that the good sense and patriotic instincts of our citizens will prevail, and that a reconstruction of school districts will soon be made in which larger schools may be gathered, and better instruction given. The same amount of money paid to one half of our present number of teachers placed over schools where the number of scholars would inspire a spirit of emulation in the school and some ambition on the part of the teacher, would be vastly more useful than as at present expended.

CLOSING REMARKS.

During the past year your Committee has made 52 school visits. He has taken note of text books, writing books, and the general condition and management of the schools, and has in mind the cordiality with which he has been received by teachers, scholars, and patrons generally, and the attentive and respectful manner with which they have listened to his various suggestions and remarks. He has on many occasions been accompanied by ladies and gentlemen interested in educational affairs, who have added interest and importance to his mission by their presence and addresses. He believes that his course in this regard has had a good influence upon schools and teachers, by bringing them more particularly into public notice and enlarging their self respect, and a feeling that they are not beyond the pale of public observation. All of which your Committee respectfully begs leave to submit.

JOSEPH W. PARMELEE, Supt. of Schools.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF SCHOOLS.

No. of District.....	*Terms.*—1, *Summer*; 2, *Fall*; 3, *Winter*....	*Names of Teachers.*	*Length of School in weeks*.....	*Whole Attendance*.....	*Average daily Attendance*.....	*No. Pupils between 5 and 15 not attending*...	*No. of Pupils under 5 years of Age*.....	*No. of Pupils over 15 years of Age*.....	*No. of Pupils between 5 and 15 years of Age*	*No. of Pupils who have not been absent*.....	*Number studying Higher Branches*.....	*Number of visits of Supt*.....	*Wages of Teachers per Month*.....
1	1	Ella S. Foote,	10	7	7	0	0	0	7	5	0	2	15.00
	3	Katie B. Long,	15	12	12	0	1	2	9	2	0	2	16.00
3	1	Estie M. Cutting,	8.8	18	16	0	0	1	17	4	0	2	17.00
	3	Maurice L. Clark,	13	25	20	2	0	7	16	8	4	2	27.00
4	1	Emma F. Gilmore,	8	11	10	0	0	0	11	3	0	2	15.00
	2	Sarah B. Colby,	10	12	10	0	0	1	11	5	0	2	16.00
	3	"	10	12	10	0	0	2	10	5	0	2	17.64
5	1	Madora A. Gove,	11	17	15	0	1	0	16	4	0	2	20.00
	3	Celia A. Gove,	17	19	15	0	1	0	18	3	0	2	24.00
6	1	Matilda M. Putnam,	8	40	32	0	1	5	34	11	0	2	24.00
	2	"	10	45	31	0	2	8	35	6	0	2	28.00
	3	"	10	37	33	0	1	11	25	9	0	2	32.00
7	1	Dora M. Pike,	9	11	10	0	1	2	8	2	0	2	19.00
	3	Chas. J. Emerson,	14.8	17	15	2	0	9	8	4	5	2	25.64
9	1	Zilpha M. Cutting,	9	14	11	0	2	1	11	8	0	2	16.00
	3	"	12	15	12	0	0	1	14	7	0	2	19.00
10	1	Ada A. Johnson,	12	19	16	0	0	3	16	8	0	2	17.00
	3	"	13	21	17	0	0	4	17	7	0	2	19.00
11	1	Chloe Stella Miller,	10	7	5	0	0	0	7	3	0	1	14.00
	3	Estie M. Cutting,	10.6	7	6	0	0	1	6	5	1	2	16.00
12	1	Mrs. S. L. Tenney,	8	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	21.40
	3	Alice M. Carr,	10	5	4	0	0	3	2	1	0	2	19.54
13	1	Sadie J. H. Cutting,	9	9	7	0	0	3	6	5	1	2	16.00
	3	Abbie Rose Cutting,	15	10	7	0	0	4	6	3	1	3	14.40
15	1	Rosette A. Rowell,	8	7	4	0	1	1	5	0	1	2	16.00
	3	"	10	6	4	0	0	3	3	1	1	2	20.00

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